

SOUNDING OUT

1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

Pastor Bill Reirden – October 23, 2011

How do we live a faith where we are sounding out like the Thessalonians?

² We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, ³ remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, ⁴ knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

This was a church that was blessing people.

The loudest faith is marked by _____ others.

Our faith, hope, and love is hanging on our walls and not on our hearts and hands.

⁵ For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

⁶ And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

This was a church that walked in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Loud faith is _____.

- True Christianity is both disturbing and powerful. – Wm Barclay
- True Christianity turns conformists into revolutionaries. – Wm Reirden

⁸ For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. ⁹ For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

This was a church with a reputation.

Loud faith draws attention to _____.

It makes Jesus easy to talk about.

Questions for meditation:

- Are others thankful for me?
- Is God's power evident in my life?
- Do I make it easier for others to talk about Jesus?
- Am I sounding out?